

M I N U T E S
SANDY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Sandy City Hall - Council Chamber Room #211
10000 Centennial Parkway
Sandy, Utah 84070

JULY 25, 2006

Meeting was commenced at 5:15 p.m.

PRESENT:

Council Members: Chairwoman Linda Martinez Saville, Bryant Anderson, Scott Cowdell, Chris McCandless, and Stephen Smith

Mayor: Tom Dolan

Others in Attendance: CAO Byron Jorgenson; City Attorney Walter Miller; Community Development Director Mike Coulam; Public Utilities Director Shane Pace; Public Works Director Rick Smith; Economic Development Director Randy Sant; Deputy to the Mayor John Hiskey; Police Chief Stephen Chapman; Fire Chief Don Chase; Parks & Recreation Director Nancy Shay; Administrative Services Director Art Hunter; Assistant CAO James Davidson; Council Office Director Phil Glenn; Council Office Manager Naleen Wright

ABSENT/EXCUSED:

Councilmember Steve Fairbanks (FEMA training) and Vice Chairman Dennis Tenney (personal business)

*****PLANNING MEETING*****

5:15 p.m.

1. **Alta Canyon Recreation SSD/Truth in Taxation**

The City Council will be meeting at City Hall (in the Council Conference Room #221), to participate in a short discussion with Board Members of the Alta Canyon Recreation Special Service District, to discuss issues pertaining to an upcoming Truth in Taxation Public Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, August 8, 2006, at Sandy City Hall.

DISCUSSION: Members of the City Council and Administration met with the Board Members of the Alta Canyon Recreation Special Service District (the District) including Kristin Gorang, Anne T. Barr, Carol Lupus, Marquette Mansell, and Alta Canyon Recreation Director Janet Cassel, to discuss the need for an approximate 20% tax increase for only those Sandy residents that live within the Alta Canyon Special Service District. Mrs. Cassel presented a copy of the proposed Public Hearing notice (hearing to be held August 8, 2006) for the Council's perusal.

For example, the proposed tax increase, on a \$300,000 home, would be an additional \$7.62 per year (approximately \$0.635 per month). Currently, a home of that evaluation is now paying \$38.12 per year. With the additional \$7.62, (the proposed tax increase), that home owner would be paying a new total of \$45.74 per year. On a business having the same \$300,000 assessed value, the tax increase would be from \$69.30 to \$83.16 (or a difference of \$13.86). The District has not had a tax rate increase since its inception in 1984.

Director of Administrative Services, Art Hunter, explained that the Truth in Taxation hearing could be conducted in one evening before the City Council. That hearing has been scheduled for August 8, 2006, at 7:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers as directed by the Council during the FY 2006-2007 Budget process. This hearing would be conducted in the same way a typical rezoning public hearing is held.

Mrs. Cassel, assisted by Parks & Recreation Director Nancy Shay went over a 5-year Capital Projects Plan for the Alta Canyon Sports Center and what the estimated revenue would be from a 3%, 6%, 9%, 12%, 15%, 18%, and a 20% property tax increase. **See Exhibit "A".**

Byron Jorgenson commented that the Administration has reviewed the proposed 20% property tax increase, and feels quite comfortable with what has been proposed. The Administration believes the increase is badly needed.

Mayor Dolan asked for the Council's permission to seek other funding sources through grants and etc., for the Alta Canyon Recreation Center. (The Council gave their permission.)

Janet Cassel commented that the Alta Canyon Recreation Center (Center) has the lowest tax rate for a Special Service District operating a Recreation Center. For example, Sandy's proposed property tax increase (if approved) would increase the tax rate within the District to 0.000277, compared to the 0.000615 charged in Cottonwood Heights, and the 0.001094 charged to Kearns Oquirrah Park.

The boundaries of this Special Service District (SSD) are on the North, the south side of Creek Road; on the South, on the north side of Dimple Dell; on the East, to Wasatch Boulevard; on the West, 1300 East. This SSD District falls within the Alta Canyon District, which is the largest quadrant within the City.

Chris McCandless asked if the tax increase could be higher than 20%.

Art Hunter explained that the proposed 20% property tax increase cannot be exceeded without re-publishing a new Truth in Taxation notice. An additional property tax increase could be considered next year.

Scott Cowdell indicated that he personally would struggle with approving a 20% tax increase, because there are many people on a fixed income. He felt it would be better to have gradual increases each year until the tax rate was where it needed to be.

Mr. Cowdell noted that the Alta Canyon Recreation District was the first entity that stepped up to fund a recreation center and parks in the City. He felt it was time that the rest of the City's residents paid back the Alta Canyon District, as they have been able to enjoy these amenities without paying increased property taxes into a Special Service District.

Nancy Shay stated that four (4) parks were created by the Alta Canyon SSD. They are flood retention pond/parks that are leased for \$1 per year from Salt Lake County for ball fields. Ms. Shay stated that the Alta Canyon Recreation Center is in need of some major repairs. These operational costs are not covered by the current tax revenue.

The Alta Canyon Board Members asked if the Council could set a time to meet with them to further discuss badly needed renovations.

Phil Glenn stated that he would provide the Board with some possible times and dates, so a date certain could be set on the Council's Agenda Calendar.

At approximately 5:40 p.m., Bryant Anderson made the motion to adjourn Planning Meeting to convene into City Council Meeting; motion seconded by Chris McCandless.

5 :45 p.m.

2. **Encouraging Better Reporting of 911 Emergency Funds & Local Taxes by Telecommunication Providers**
Resolution #06-56 C - voicing support for, and a request for, the adoption and implementation of Utah State Tax Commission's proposed Rule R861-1A-39 to encourage better reporting of 911 Emergency Funds and Local Taxes collected by Telecommunication Providers.

DISCUSSION: Deputy Mayor John Hiskey reported that not all telecommunication companies are identifying properly the payors' municipal address. It is estimated that only 1/3 of the 911 Emergency Funds & Local Taxes are being reported. With the approval of this resolution, it will give the Tax Commission the authority to obtain accurate reporting and collection of taxes from the telecommunication companies.

MOTION: Chris McCandless made the motion to adopt Resolution #06-56 C - voicing support for, and a request for, the adoption and implementation of Utah State Tax Commission's proposed Rule R861-1A-39 to encourage better reporting of 911 Emergency Funds and Local Taxes collected by Telecommunication Providers.

SECOND: Stephen Smith

VOTE: Smith- Yes, McCandless- Yes, Tenney- Absent,
Anderson- Yes, Cowdell- Yes, Fairbanks- Absent, Saville- Yes

MOTION PASSED
5 in favor, 2 absent

At approximately 5:45 p.m., Stephen Smith made a motion to adjourn Council Meeting, motion seconded by Chris McCandless.

At approximately 6:00 p.m.

TOUR

The City Council, Administration and some Department Heads left City Hall to participate in a TOUR of various Community Development projects throughout the City.

The content of the minutes is not intended, nor are they submitted, as a verbatim transcription of the meeting. These minutes are a brief overview of what occurred at the meeting.

Linda Martinez Saville
Council Chairwoman

Naleen Wright
Council Office Manager

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